

Our beloved late colleague, Senator Paul Wellstone, said that "the future belongs to those with passion." By that standard, Roberta has a very bright future. And I wish her the very best.●

#### TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUT STEPHEN CRAYNER

● Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, today I congratulate a remarkable young Hoosier and fellow Eagle Scout, Stephen Crayner.

Since becoming an Eagle Scout on April 22, 2004, an extraordinary achievement in itself, Stephen has continued to work diligently to improve himself and his community, eventually earning all 121 merit badges offered by the Boy Scouts. This dedication has earned him the distinguished rank of Eagle Scout with Three Silver Palms.

During my time in the Scouting program, I learned many important lessons about leadership, organization, and community spirit. For the troop to be a successful unit, each member must learn to take initiative and offer ideas and energy. He must also develop the ability to work in a team environment, and therefore accept the challenge of compromise and negotiation. Finally, the activities and the efforts of the Scouting program reflect a commitment to community involvement. Stephen's mastery of these lessons will serve him well in the years ahead.

I also appreciate this opportunity to congratulate the members of Stephen's family who have played such a large role in his many accomplishments. Stephen's father David served as Scoutmaster, and his mother Libby has volunteered extensively to support the troop. It is telling that Stephen's two older brothers, William and Benjamin, have also earned their Eagle.

I am hopeful that each of you will join me in congratulating Stephen for all of his remarkable accomplishments and in wishing him continuing success as he pursues new and exciting challenges.●

#### IN HONOR OF MR. STAN MINKINOW

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to Mr. Stan Minkinow of Huntsville, AL. Mr. Minkinow is an American patriot whose life epitomizes the American dream. He immigrated to this country under the Lodge Act, which provided a pathway for eastern European refugees to earn American citizenship through honorable service in the U.S. military. Today we see the result of that legislation in Mr. Minkinow and his lifetime of service to this Nation and a family legacy of selfless service.

Mr. Minkinow was born in Lodz, Poland, in 1932. Mr. Minkinow and his family hid from the Gestapo until betrayed and forced to the Warsaw Ghetto. Mr. Minkinow and his parents survived the severe deprivations of ghetto life and accomplished a daring escape. The family survived the war, only to

confront postwar life under the harsh control of a Soviet-controlled authoritarian regime.

Mr. Minkinow's journey to U.S. citizenship began in a German village in 1951 where he saw a U.S. Army recruiting film at a train station. Ready for adventure, he enlisted in the U.S. Army, where he became a member of the elite, newly created Special Forces training at Fort Bragg, NC. After marrying Doris, a local girl, the Army sent Sergeant Minkinow back to Germany where he became an American Cold Warrior serving on the frontlines. He served with the 10th Special Forces Group in Bad Tolz from 1955 to 1958.

Ambition and achievement are hallmarks of so many of our immigrant population and Mr. Minkinow is no exception. He completed Officer Candidate School and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Infantry. After a tour in Korea, he completed Army flight school at Fort Rucker, AL, and became an Army aviator. Mr. Minkinow settled his family in Enterprise, AL, while he twice fought for his country in Vietnam. Cited by the Army for valor in combat and service, Mr. Minkinow possesses numerous medals, including the Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star, and the Air Medal.

After completing a distinguished 27-year Army career, Mr. Minkinow retired to Huntsville, AL, where he has become a prominent local businessman known for his generosity for local causes and charities. Mr. Minkinow frequently shares his Holocaust experiences with children at local schools, and gave a presentation on his childhood wartime experiences to a class at the National Defense University in Washington, DC.

Stan and Doris have three adult children in whom they instilled a profound pride of citizenship and an urgent calling to serve the Nation. All three children have served in the Armed Forces. Their oldest daughter and her husband together served for over 28 years in the Army. Their son is a graduate of the Air Force Academy and retired as a lieutenant colonel from the Alabama Air National Guard. Their youngest daughter and her husband will soon retire from the Army as colonels in the Judge Advocate General's Corps with a combined service of 46 years.

I applaud Mr. Minkinow and his fellow veterans for their steadfast devotion to this Nation and his many years of service. From a child, wide-eyed with fright in the streets of Nazi ghettos, to his brave escape from the Soviet fist and subsequent faithful service as a soldier and later as a businessman, Mr. Minkinow epitomizes how this great country is made even greater by such talented immigrants. We are a stronger country today because of men like Stan and the contributions of his family. I am pleased, to bring this example of Alabama patriotism to the Nation's attention as we continue to celebrate those who have served, our veterans, who have assured our freedom and prosperity.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a treaty which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:18 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S.435. An act to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate a segment of the Farmington River and Salmon Brook in the State of Connecticut for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes.

S. 1131. An act to authorize the exchange of certain Federal land within the State of Idaho, and for other purposes.

S. 1140. An act to designate the State Route 1 Bridge in the State of Delaware as the "Senator William V. Roth, Jr. Bridge".

S. 3880. An act to provide the Department of Justice the necessary authority to apprehend, prosecute, and convict individuals committing animal enterprise terror.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 409) to provide for the exchange of land within the Sierra National Forest, California, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1129) to authorize the exchange of certain land in the State of Colorado.

#### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The message also announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 2464. An act to revise a provision relating to a repayment obligation of the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation under the Fort McDowell Indian Community Water Rights Settlement Act of 1990, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

At 5:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 6121. An act to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize a program relating to the Lake Pontchartrain Basin, and for other purposes.